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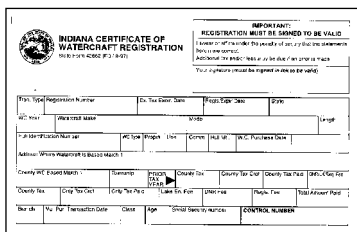
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LAWS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Everyone in Indiana waters is expected to obey Indiana boating laws. The first thing you must do is register and title your boat.

Motorboat Registration IC 9-31-2, IC9-31-3

Any motorboat or Personal Watercraft used mostly on Indiana waters must have an Indiana certificate of registration and a validation decal.



The form is titled "INDIANA CERTIFICATE OF WATERCRAFT REGISTRATION" and includes a state seal. It contains fields for:

- Boat Type, Registration Number, Ex. Tax Exempt Date, Reg. Exp. Date, and EPO.
- Owner Name, Address, and City/State/Zip.
- Boat Name, Length, and Horsepower.
- County, State, and a section for taxes and fees (County Tax, Title Tax, Sales Tax, etc.).
- A section for "Other Information" including date of purchase, age, and serial number.
- A "CONTROL NUMBER" field.

 A note at the top right states: "REGISTRATION MUST BE RENEWED TO BE VALID. Renewal notice will be mailed to the owner of record. Renewal notice will be mailed to the owner of record. Renewal notice will be mailed to the owner of record."

Exceptions:

- A non-motorized watercraft.
- A motorboat legally registered in another state, which has not been in Indiana for more than 60 consecutive days.
- A watercraft acquired by an Indiana owner before January 1, 1986.
- A watercraft made by an individual for the individual's use and not for resale.
- A watercraft that costs less than \$3,000 when new **IC 6-6-11-10.**
- Even exempted watercraft may be titled to facilitate verification of ownership in case of theft or other loss.

Keep your registration in full force.

- Excise tax decals are valid for one year. A renewal notice will automatically be sent to owners of registered watercraft.
- Notify the BMV within 31 days of an address change.

- Notify the BMV within 15 days if ownership transfers or if the watercraft has been abandoned or destroyed.
- Apply to the BMV to replace a destroyed or missing registration certificate.

Large recreational boats owned by U.S. citizens can be documented by the U.S. Coast Guard. Contact the USCG's Documentation Center at **(800) 799-8362**. Boats documented by the U.S. Coast Guard must be registered by the State of Indiana and display the excise decal.

Where To Get Application Forms

Title and registration applications are available from the Bureau of Motor Vehicle License Branches, tax collector's offices, marine dealers, and marinas. Forms also can be downloaded on-line at **www.bmv.in.gov/watercraft/forms.html**.

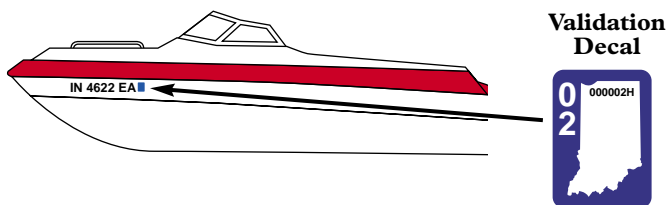
Check BMV's Website at **www.bmv.in.gov/watercraft** for more information about registration and titling. Or call **(317) 232-2859**.

Registration Fees

A one-time registration fee is charged by the BMV for newly purchased watercraft. The fee is based on the length of the watercraft.

At least (feet) but less than (feet) Fee

0	13	\$16
13	26	\$18
26	40	\$21
40 or more		\$26



Displaying Registration Decals

The title includes a certificate of registration and two validation decals. The registration certificate must be onboard at all times.

The registration number and validation decals must be displayed on the boat as follows (**140 IAC 9-4-2**):

- The registration number shall be painted or attached to both sides of the bow.
- Other numbers may not be displayed on either side of the bow.
- The numbers must read left to right.
- The numbers shall be at least three-inch-high block letters and visible at a distance of 100 feet.
- The numbers shall be a single color that contrasts with the background.
- Decals shall be attached on each side of the bow, within three inches and to the right of the registration numbers.

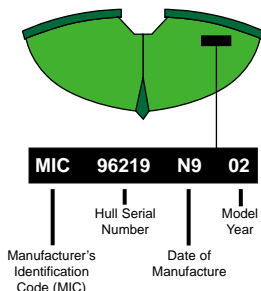
Only the current year's decal, showing month of expiration, should be displayed.

An owner may not operate or give permission to another to operate a motorboat that is not registered and numbered.

Placement of Hull Identification Number

Federal law requires that all boats built after 1972 display a 12-character Hull Identification Number (HIN).

- The number must be located to the starboard (right) of the motor on the transom and within two inches of the top of the transom, gunwale, or hull/deck joint, whichever is lowest.
- Owners should record their boat's Hull Identification Number and keep it in an on-shore location for questions of warranty or cases of theft.



The BMV can replace missing Hull Identification Numbers or issue numbers for home-built boats.

Transferring Ownership IC 9-31-3

These regulations apply to all transactions on new or pre-owned boats.

When ownership of a boat is transferred:

- The buyer must file an application for certificate of title within 31 days after purchase or transfer.
- A motorboat purchased from a dealer may be operated on Indiana waters for 31 days from date of purchase if the operator possesses a bill of sale and shows a temporary permit displayed on the forward portion of the boat.
- A pre-owned boat legally registered may be operated for 31 days from the date of transfer if operator possesses the previous owner's registration identification card.



Enforcement IC 14-15-10-1

Law enforcement officers enforce boating laws. Indiana boating laws are primarily enforced by conservation officers however other officers include police officers, sheriffs, constables, marshals, U.S. Coast Guard officers, prosecuting attorneys, and deputies of those persons. Law enforcement officers have the authority to stop and board boats to check for compliance with Indiana and federal laws.

Reckless Operation

IC 14-15-3; 14-15-12

Everyone boating in Indiana waters must operate in a careful and prudent manner, with regard for the rights, safety, and property of others. Some reminders:

- Do not operate a boat in a state of disrepair that endangers other persons or property.
- Do not operate a boat between sunset and sunrise at a speed greater than 10 miles per hour.
- Do not load a boat with passengers or cargo beyond its safe carrying capacity.
- Do not allow occupants to sit on the gunwales. If the boat is less than 21 feet long, do not allow occupants on the bow. **IC 14-15-3-24**
- Do not tow an object or person unless at least one occupant of the boat is giving full attention to watching the object or person being towed.
- Do not operate a boat within 150 feet of a Diver Down flag.

Obstructing Waterways

IC 14-15-3-25; 14-15-3-26

A boater may not:

- Moor or attach a boat to a buoy, beacon, light marker, stake, flag, or other safety aid. It also is illegal to move, remove, displace, tamper with, damage, or destroy such devices placed under federal or state authority.
- Anchor a boat in the traveled part of a river or channel so as to interfere with the safe passage of other watercraft.
- Abandon a watercraft at any time on Indiana water.

Alcohol and Drugs IC 14-15-8; 9-30-5-10

It is illegal in Indiana to operate any kind of vehicle while intoxicated by alcohol, a controlled substance, and/or a drug. It is also against Indiana law for an owner to allow a person who is intoxicated to operate a boat.

A person who operates a boat on Indiana waters implies consent to submit to a chemical test for alcohol or drug intoxication. If a person refuses to submit to a test, the person is subject to arrest for intoxication and will lose boating privileges for at least two years.

- A blood alcohol level of 0.08 percent is considered intoxicated by Indiana law.
- A person who is under the influence of a controlled substance or a drug to the degree that normal faculties, thoughts, and actions are impaired is considered intoxicated.
- A person whose blood alcohol level is less than 0.08 percent but more than 0.05 percent also may be subject to arrest.

Violation of Indiana's boating while intoxicated laws can result in convictions and penalties of:

- A Class C misdemeanor for operating a vehicle while intoxicated. (Sentence up to 60 days, fine up to \$500.)
- A Class A misdemeanor if an intoxicated person operates a vehicle in a manner that endangers a person. (Sentence up to one year, fine up to \$5,000.)
- A Class D felony if (fixed sentence up to 1 1/2 years, fine up to \$10,000):
- Within the past five years, a person has a previous conviction of operating while intoxicated.
- An intoxicated person seriously injures another person.
- A Class C felony if (fixed sentence up to four years, fine up to \$10,000):
- An intoxicated person injures another person *and*, within the past five years, has a previous conviction of operating a vehicle while intoxicated.
- An intoxicated person causes the death of another person.
- A Class B felony if an intoxicated person causes the death of another person *and*, within the past five years, has a previous conviction of operating a vehicle while intoxicated. (Fixed sentence up to 10 years, fine up to \$10,000.)

Accidents IC 14-15-4

Some examples of accidents include capsizing, collisions, sinking, flooding, explosions, disappearance, fire, and falls overboard.

A boater involved in an accident should stop immediately and as close as possible to the scene of the accident and provide assistance, making sure anyone who is injured receives reasonable assistance, including medical attention.

After an accident, the operators involved should exchange names and addresses, boat identification information, and names and addresses of the boat owners.

If an accident results in injury, death, or property damage of at least \$750, an operator must:

- Notify the county sheriff, state police, or conservation officer by the quickest means of communication.
- Mail a written report to the Department of Natural Resources within 24 hours of the accident.

If an operator cannot perform these duties, the other occupants of the boat is responsible for performing these duties or seeing that they are performed.

Stopping Theft

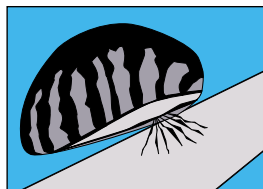
There are several steps you can take to protect your boat, motor, and equipment from being stolen.

- Title and register your boat.
- Store your boat where it is not easily accessible, in a locked space.
- Park a vehicle in front of the trailer. Remove a wheel if it is to be parked for an extended time. Use a quality trailer hitch lock.
- Chain or lock the trailer to a fixed object.
- Park or dock in a well-lighted area.
- Secure your boat to the dock with a lock and chain.
- Chain and lock fuel tanks and motors to the boat.
- Engrave or mark an identification number, such as your driver's license number, on all equipment.

- ## Special Events IC 14-15-7-3(a)

Upon receipt of a license application, a conservation officer shall inspect the proposed courses or devices. Contact the DNR, Law Enforcement Division Headquarters, for information and application forms.

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Zebra Mussels

Zebra mussels can cause serious damage to your boat or Personal Watercraft. Juvenile and adult mussels attach to boat hulls and trailers, and their larvae can be transported in ballast water, boat bilge, engine cooling systems, bait buckets, and live wells.

Boaters can help control the spread of zebra mussels by inspecting and cleaning any mussels and aquatic vegetation from the boat hull, trailer, anchor rope, chain, and motor before leaving an infected area. Discard mussels on shore in a trashcan.

Drain all water from boat and its components. Before leaving an infested area, drain bilge water, live wells, bait buckets, and engine cooling water. Bait from infested waters should be left behind too.

Allow the boat, trailer, and equipment to dry thoroughly in the sun. Leave the boat out of the water for two to four hot, dry days to kill the mussels.

Some antifouling materials can discourage mussel attachment when used on boat hulls, swimming platforms, trim tabs, and water port transducers.

Visit the Division of Fish and Wildlife webpage for a listing of waters known to contain zebra mussels. Extra precautions should be taken to decontaminate your watercraft when leaving these waters.

PROCEDURES

Float Plan

Whenever you go out on a boat, file a float plan with a family member, friend, or marina.

Include:

- Description of the boat, registration number, length, fuel capacity, and engine type.
- Emergency contact name and telephone number.
- Names, addresses, and ages of everyone on board.

Checklist

Go through this safety checklist before going out:

- ☐ Make and file a float plan.
- ☐ Make sure the boat's engine is properly tuned.
- ☐ Check engine, throttle, and steering.
- ☐ Drain water from engine compartment. Check for oil leaks and sniff for fumes.
- ☐ Check hoses and connections. Tighten clamps.
- ☐ Make sure the bilge plug is in place.
- ☐ Discuss basic safety procedures with passengers.
- ☐ Check safety equipment, including:
 - Fire extinguisher • Radio • Personal flotation devices • Emergency signal devices • Stop button (Personal Watercraft) • Ignition safety switch and wrist lanyard (Personal Watercraft)

Boat Capacity

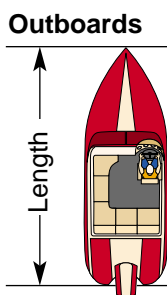
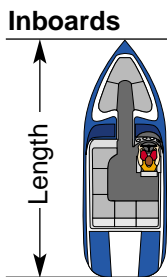
The boat's maximum weight and the maximum number of people who can be onboard safely is listed on the capacity plate, usually located near the operator's position or on the craft's transom. Users of Personal Watercraft should refer to the manufacturer's recommendations in the owner's manual and on the craft's warning decal.

Boat Length Classes

The length of your boat determines what safety equipment is required by state and federal laws. Groupings are:

- Less than 16 feet
- 16 feet to less than 26 feet
- 26 feet to less than 40 feet
- 40 feet to 65 feet

Measure a boat's length in a direct line from the tip to stern. Do not include fittings, attachments, or extensions such as handles, rudders, outboard motor brackets, or bowsprits in the measurement.



Required Equipment

All watercraft on Indiana waters must be properly equipped and maintained.

Required equipment includes personal flotation devices (PFDs), fire extinguishers, backfire flame arresters, ventilation systems, and mufflers.

Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs)

IC 14-15-2-6(b)

All personal flotation devices must:

- Be United States Coast Guard approved.
- Be in good condition.
- Be easily accessible.
- Be the proper size according to body weight and chest size.

All boats must carry one personal flotation device for each person onboard and each person being towed.

These must be Coast Guard-certified Type I, II, III, or V. Ski belts are not Coast Guard-approved.

Boats longer than 16 feet except canoes and kayaks must carry one Type IV personal flotation device.

Anyone on or being towed by a Personal Watercraft must wear an approved PFD. Persons being towed by other motorboats should wear a PFD while being towed. Ski belts are not Coast Guard-approved.

On the Ohio River (312 IAC 5-13-5)

A person being towed on water skis, a surfboard, a kite, or similar device must wear a Type I, II, or III PFD. For such activities, Type V PFDs are not approved.

Type I: Offshore Life Jacket

Designed to turn an unconscious person face up. Acceptable for all recreational and commercial boats.



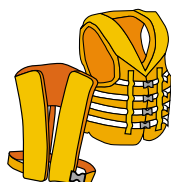
Type II: Near-Shore Vest

May not be able to turn an unconscious person face up, but acceptable on all recreational boats. Good for calm waters.



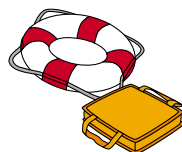
Type III: Flotation Aid

Cannot turn an unconscious person face up. Comfortable for extended wearing, these jackets are designed primarily for water-skiing and sailing. Acceptable on all recreational boats, but not recommended for rough waters.



Type IV: Throwable Device

Cushions and rings designed to be thrown to persons in trouble in the water. Acceptable only in conjunction with other PFDs on boats over 16 feet. Not recommended for nonswimmers or in rough waters.



Type V: Special Use Device

Approved by the U.S. Coast Guard for specialized uses such as kayaking or water-skiing. Some styles provide protection from hypothermia. Varieties include work vests, board sailing vests, hybrid PFDs, and deck suits.



Fire Extinguishers 312 IAC 5-13-3

Fully charged, operational fire extinguishers always should be onboard, ready for use, and easily accessible on any motorboat. On waters of concurrent jurisdiction fire extinguisher requirements are as follows.

Type B fire extinguishers are required if a boat has:

- Closed compartments under seats where portable fuel tanks may be stored.
- Closed compartments where flammable or combustible materials may be stored.
- Closed living quarters.
- Permanently installed fuel tanks.

Motorboats equipped with an outboard motor are not required to carry a fire extinguisher.

A label marked "Marine Type USCG Approved"—followed by the size and type symbols and the approval number—should be attached to a boat's fire extinguisher.

Fire Extinguisher Requirements

Classification	Foam	Carbon	Dry Chemical
type & size	min. gallons	min. pounds	min. pounds
B-I	1 1/4	4	2
B-II	2 1/2	15	10
Length Class	Without Fixed System	With Fixed System*	
Less than 16 ft.	1 B-I	None	
16 ft. to less than 26 ft.	1 B-I	None	
26 ft. to less than 40 ft.	2 B-I or 1 B-II	1 B-1	
40 ft. to less than 65 ft.	3 B-1 or 1 B-II and 1 B-I	2 B-1 or 1 B-II	

*permanently installed fire system

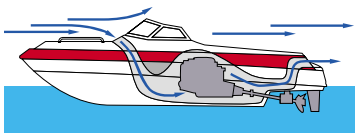
Backfire Flame Arrestors IC 14-15-2-3

Each carburetor on an inboard motorboat must be equipped with a US Coast Guard-approved device to arrest backfire. The device should be inspected and cleaned regularly.

Ventilation Systems

IC 14-15-2-2

A properly installed and well-maintained ventila-



tion system will help prevent explosions. Such systems are designed to remove accumulating fumes and gases.

Any gas-powered boat constructed in such a way that it may entrap fumes must be equipped with at least two bilge ventilators fitted with cowls.

If your boat is equipped with a power ventilation system, do not start the engine until you have run the ventilation system for at least four minutes.

Mufflers IC 14-15-2-4

A motorboat on Indiana waters must be equipped with a muffler, underwater exhaust, or other device that muffles or suppresses the exhaust sound. A person may not operate a motorboat on Indiana water if the boat's motor is equipped with a muffler cutout, bypass, or similar device.

Navigation Lights IC 14-15-2-10 to 14

Indiana law specifies the type and use of lights required for your boat. Lights must be used:

- During the period between sunset and sunrise.
- During weather conditions of limited visibility, such as fog or heavy rain.

Type of Craft:	That Is:	Must Display These Lights When Underway:	Shown In:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Motorboat• Sailboat under power	Powered by engine less than 15 hp	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An all-around white light aft or combination of one sternlight and one masthead light—visible for at least two miles	Figure 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Motorboat• Sailboat under power	Powered by engine 15 hp or greater	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bowlights (green to starboard; red to port)—visible for at least one mile• An all-around white light aft or combination of one sternlight and one masthead light—visible from a distance of at least two miles	Figure 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sailboat under sail	More than 22 ft. in length	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bowlights (green to starboard; red to port)—visible for at least one mile• One sternlight—visible for at least two miles	Figure 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sailboat under sail• Canoe or kayak• Boat with an electric motor	22 ft. in length or less	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A hand-portable lantern or flashlight throwing a white light—visible for at least two miles. The operator must display the light aft in sufficient time to avoid a collision.	Figure 4

All Boats When Not Underway

A white light, visible from all directions, must be displayed when a boat is anchored or moored away from the dock between sunset and sunrise.

A person may not operate a boat between sunset and sunrise at a speed greater than 10 miles per hour. IC 14-15-3-8

Figure 1

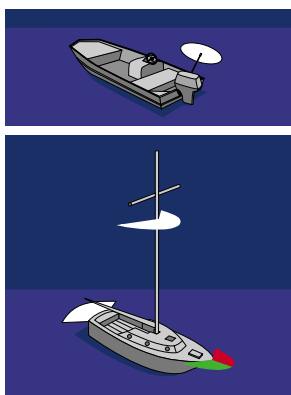


Figure 2

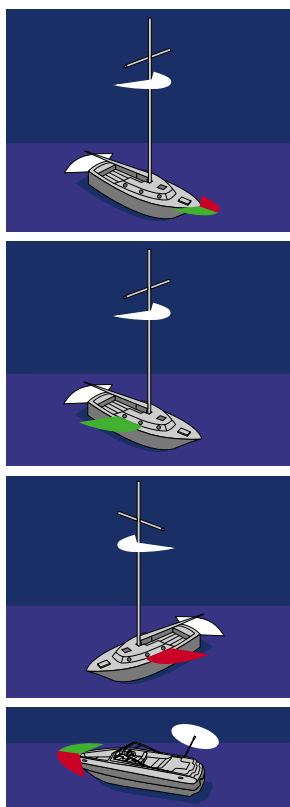


Figure 3

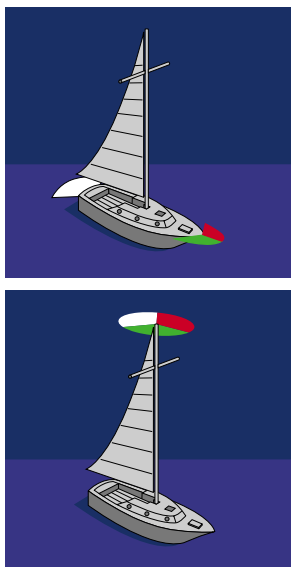
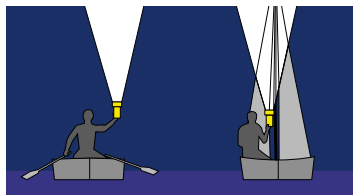


Figure 4



Sound-Producing Devices 312 IAC 5-13-4

On waters of concurrent jurisdiction your boat must be equipped with a sound-producing device for use in conditions of reduced visibility. Unnecessary sounding of a whistle or horn is prohibited. The devices include a whistle, bell, and horn.

- A watercraft of less than 12 meters (39.4 feet) must be provided with the means to make an efficient sound signal.
- A watercraft of more than 12 meters (39.4 feet) must be provided with a whistle and a bell. Other equipment with the same sound characteristics may be used as a substitute for the bell.

Sound Signals

A boat operator should be acquainted with these sound signals:

Restricted Visibility

- Power-driven vessels use *one prolonged blast* every two minutes underway.
- Sailboats under sail only and boats not under command or with restricted maneuverability sound *one prolonged blast followed by two short blasts* every two minutes.

Warning

- Watercraft sound *one prolonged blast* to sound a warning, such as when moving through a blind curve.
- Watercraft sound *five short rapid blasts* to signal distress, danger, or to indicate that the operator does not understand the other boat's intentions.

Visual Distress Signals (VDSs)

312 IAC 5-14-20

On waters of concurrent jurisdiction federal regulations require boats to be equipped day and night with U.S. Coast Guard Approved Visual Distress Signals.

- Between sunset and sunrise, all boats must carry a Visual Distress Signal suitable for night use.
- At all times, signals suitable for day and night use must be carried on boats longer than 16 feet.

Exception: nonmotorized sailboats of open construction and less than 26 feet long.

If carrying pyrotechnic Visual Distress Signals, federal regulations require that a boat carry at least three. A boat may carry:

- Three hand-held red flares, which meet day and night requirements; or,
- Three orange smoke signals (for day use) in combination with one electric light (for night use).

Pyrotechnic Visual Distress Signals



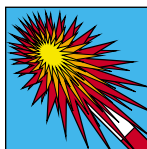
Orange Smoke

Day Signal



Red Meteor

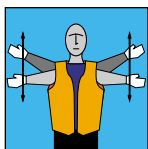
Day and Night Signal



Red Flare

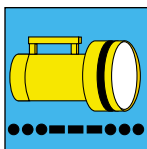
Day and Night Signal

Nonpyrotechnic Visual Distress Signals



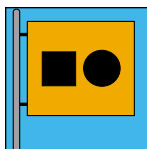
Arm Signal

If a VDS is not available, moving your arms as shown indicates that you need help. Arm motions are not USCG-approved VDSs.



Electric Light

Night Signal



Orange Flag

Day Signal

NAVIGATION

You keep Indiana waterways safe when you obey the rules of navigation. Each boater is responsible for controlling his or her craft and avoiding collisions.



Approaching Other Boats

Each operator must take the responsibility of avoiding a collision between boats or Personal Watercraft. Drawings show the rules when meeting another craft.

There are three basic rules concerning right-of-way on the water:

- Be courteous • Be watchful • Go slowly

Boats With Limited Maneuverability

A boat under power must give right of way to:

- A disabled or anchored boat
- Any craft with limited maneuverability
- A commercial fishing boat
- A sailboat under sail

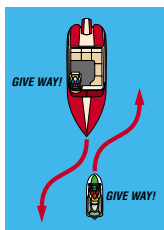
A boat under sail must give right of way to:

- A disabled or anchored boat
- Any craft with restricted maneuverability
- A commercial fishing boat

Navigation Rules IC 14-15-3

A **stand-on boat** or Personal Watercraft should maintain course and speed.

A **give-way boat** or Personal Watercraft must take action to avoid collision by stopping, slowing, or changing course.

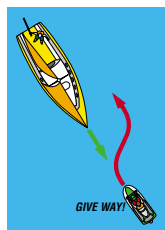


Power vs. power

Meeting

Power vs. power: Both boats are give-way boats and both should keep to starboard (right).

Power vs. sail: The sailboat is the stand-on boat. The powerboat must give way.



Power vs. sail

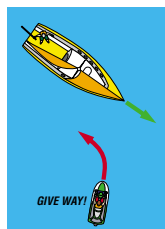


Power vs. power

Crossing

Power vs. power: The starboard side boat (right) is the stand-on boat and has the right of way. The port side boat (left) must give way.

Power vs. sail: The sailboat is the stand-on boat. The powerboat must give way.

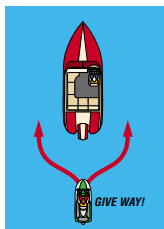


Power vs. sail

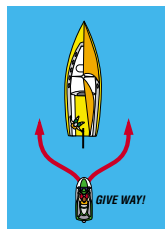
Overtaking

Power vs. power: The craft overtaking another craft is the give-way boat. The operator can pass on either side if there is clear distance ahead.

Power vs. sail: The craft overtaking another craft is the give-way boat. The operator can pass on either side if there is clear distance ahead.



Power vs. power



Power vs. sail

Nighttime Navigation IC 14-15-2 (10 to 14)

A boat must have correct lighting when on the water between sunset and sunrise, or in limited visibility.

Bowlights

Red and green lights (including combination lights) that are visible to other boats approaching from the side or head-on. A green light shows on a craft's starboard (right) side. A red light shows on a craft's port (left) side.

Sternlights

White lights that can be seen 360 degrees around the boat from at least two miles away.

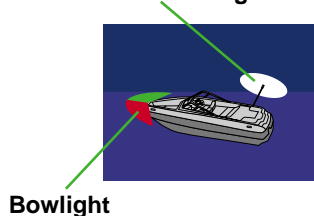
Masthead Light

A white light on the masthead and shining forward is required on all powerboats. Absence of a masthead light indicates a sailboat under sail.

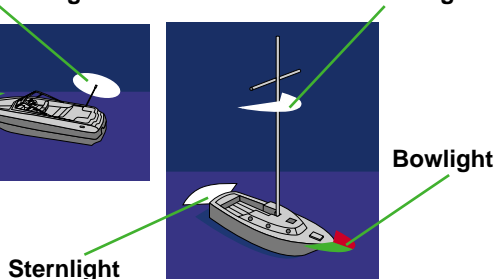
All-Around White Light

A boat shorter than 39.4 feet may use an all-around light as a combined masthead and stern light. This 360-degree light is used as an anchor light when the bowlights are extinguished.

All-Around White Light



Masthead Light

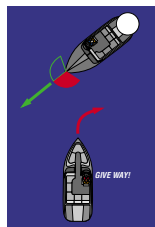
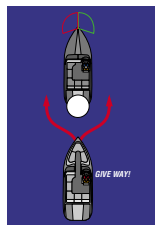
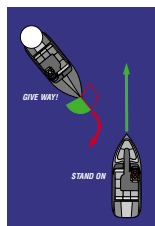


Meeting Boats at Night

If you see white and green lights, you are the stand-on boat. Remain alert in case the other boat does not know rules of right-of-way.

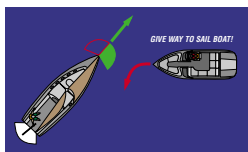
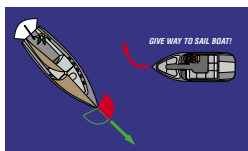
If you see a white light, you are overtaking another craft, which means it is the stand-on boat or is at anchor. Pass with caution on either side.

If you see a red and a white light, give way by slowing and allowing the other craft to pass. You can also pass to the right and behind it.



Meeting a Sailboat at Night

If you see only a green light or only a red light, you are approaching a sailboat under sail. Give way, because a sailboat under sail always is the stand-on boat.



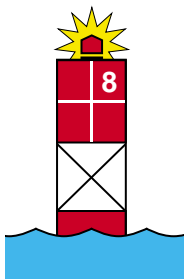
U.S. Aids to Navigation System (ATON)

312 IAC 5-4-4

Aids to navigation mark safe water and help boaters determine position. Each marker provides specific information.

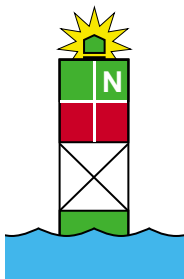
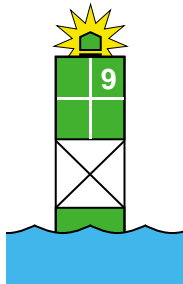
Lateral Markers

Lateral markers use colors and numbers to indicate sides of a route to be followed.

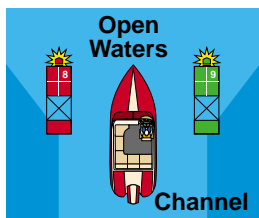
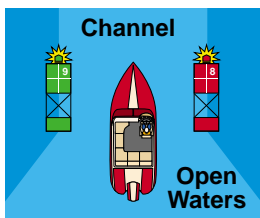


Red colors, red lights, and even numbers indicate the right side of the channel as a boat enters from the open sea or heads upstream.

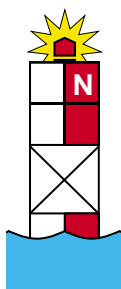
Green colors, green lights, and odd numbers indicate the left side of the channel as a boat enters from the open sea or heads upstream.



Red and green colors and/or lights indicate a preferred channel. When green is on top, the channel is to the right. When red is on top, the channel is to the left.



Remember the rule of "3R": Red, Right, Returning
when returning from open water
or heading upstream.

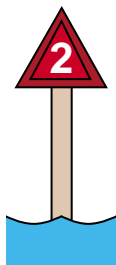
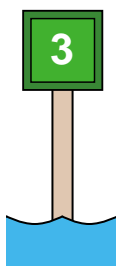


Lighted Buoys have the same shape, colors, and numbers as the lateral markers with the addition of a matching colored light.

Nuns are buoys with a cone shape and have red colors and even numbers.



Cans are buoys with a cylindrical shape and have green colors and odd numbers.



Daymarks are permanently placed triangular and square signs. They are sometimes lighted. Red triangles mean the same as nuns. Green squares mean the same as cans.

Nonlateral Markers 312 IAC 5-4-6

Nonlateral markers relay information on regulations, controlled areas, and dangers.



Information

A square indicates information.



Controlled

A circle indicates controlled conditions like speed limits, fishing areas, skiing or no skiing areas, and no wake areas.



Exclusion

A crossed diamond warns that an area is off limits to boats, including swimming areas, spillways, and dams.

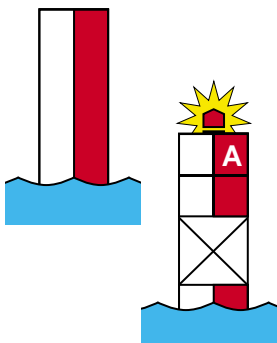


Danger

An open diamond carries words that alert boaters to dangers, including rocks, shoals, dams, and stumps.

Safe Water Marks

White markers with vertical red stripes indicate midchannels and fairways. Pass on either side.

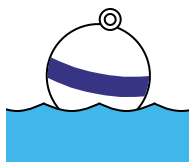


Inland Waters Obstruction Marks

White markers with vertical black stripes indicate an obstruction. Do not pass between these markers and shore.

Mooring Buoy

White markers with a blue horizontal band are placed in marinas and other places where boats are permitted to anchor.



Weather Emergencies

A boat operator needs to understand how weather patterns develop and how to read clouds. Boaters should always be prepared and equipped for rough waters. A VHF radio, tuned to a weather frequency, is a necessary piece of equipment on any craft.

VHF Frequencies Broadcasting NOAA Weather Reports

162.400 MHz	162.500 MHz
162.425 MHz	162.525 MHz
162.450 MHz	162.550 MHz
162.475 MHz	

Two-Way VHF Channels

These VHF channels are for two-way communication:

- 6** For inter-ship safety communications only
- 9** For communications between boats and for ship to coast
- 13** Strictly for navigational purposes by vessels at harbors, bridges, and locks
- 16** For distress and safety calls to the U.S. Coast Guard
- 22** For U.S. Coast Guard severe weather and other safety warnings
- 24-28** For public telephone calls (to marine operator)
- 68, 69, 71** . . For recreational boat radio communications and ship to coast

What to Do In Bad Weather

- When a storm hits, seek shelter immediately.
- Wear personal flotation devices in rough seas.
- Slow down.
- Close all openings, hatches and ports.
- Secure loose objects.
- Keep the bilge dry.

- Seat passengers on the bottom of the boat near the centerline.
- Set a course for the nearest shore that is safe to approach.
- Steer at a 45-degree angle into the waves. Steer Personal Watercraft at a 90 degree angle into the waves.
- Use the foghorn in low visibility conditions.
- If the engine stops, drop anchor from the bow of the boat. A makeshift anchor made of a bucket on a rope or a tackle box will create drag and hold the craft's bow into the wind.

Weather Warning Display Signals

Small Craft Advisory

Sustained winds of 18 to 33 knots or waves hazardous to small boats.

Gale Warning

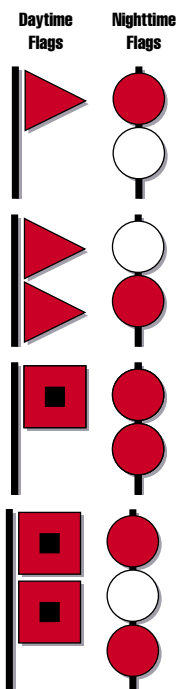
Sustained winds of 34 to 47 knots.

Storm Warning

Sustained winds of 48 knots or more.

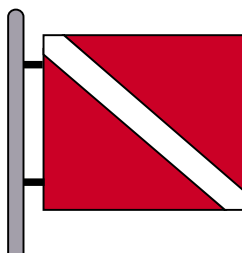
Hurricane Warning

Sustained winds of 64 knots or more, associated with a hurricane.



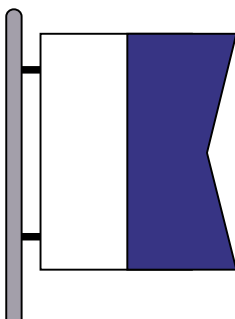
Diver Down Flags IC 14-15-9

Divers are required to display a Diver Down flag and to stay within 100 feet of it. Other craft may not approach closer than 150 feet of a Diver Down flag.



Diver Flag

A Diver Down flag must be at least 12 inches square, with a red background and white diagonal stripe that is one-fifth the width of the flag.



Alpha Flag

The blue-and-white Alpha Flag, also known as the International Code Flag A, is used for all diving operations. It must be at least one meter (3.2 feet) high and visible from all directions. This flag means a boat's maneuverability is limited by diving operations.

Especially for Skiers

IC 14-15-3-20; IC 14-15-12-7

There are specific regulations regarding boats towing individuals on water skis, watersleds, aquaplanes, or other similar devices.

Ski Regulations

IC 14-15-3-20; IC 14-15-12-7

At least one person in the boat other than the operator must give full attention to watching the object or person being towed.

In order to tow an individual, a Personal Watercraft must be at least nine feet long and seat at least three people: the operator, the observer, and the skier.

Anyone being towed by any craft must wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device. Ski belts are not Coast Guard-approved.

Towing skiers or other objects is not allowed between sunset and sunrise.



Water Skiing/Tubing on the Ohio River

On the Ohio River, towing hours begin one hour before sunrise and end one hour after sunset.

When towing, an operator must have an observer on board or use a rear-view mirror. The observer must be at least 12 years old. The mirror must have at least a 160-degree wide-angle field of vision and be mounted so the operator can see the person being towed.

When towing a kite, an observer is required.

Hand Signals for Skiers

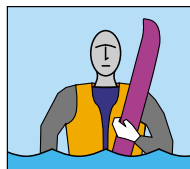
These signals are universal for skiers. Operators, observers, and skiers should know and use them.



Skier OK



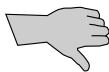
Back to dock



Skier down! Watch!



Speed up



Slow down



Speed OK



Stop



Turn left



Turn right

FUEL AND TRASH

Fueling

Before fueling:

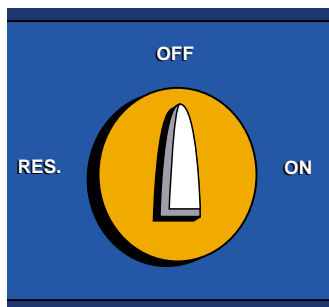
- Shut off fuel valves and close hatches, ports, and other openings.
- Turn off all engines and electrical equipment.
- Check for fuel leaks and tighten fuel system connections.
- Fuel during daylight hours. If it is dark, use a spark-proof light.
- Do not smoke or strike a match at or near a fueling dock.

During fueling:

- Keep the spout in contact with the fuel pipe or tank to prevent buildup of static electricity.
- Do not top off the tank.
- Do not tip a Personal Watercraft in order to fill the tank.
- Do not spill fuel into the water.
- Put portable tanks on the dock to fill.

After fueling:

- Tighten the cap.
- Wipe up spilled fuel. Do not throw the rag into the boat or water.
- Sniff the bilges for gas fumes. If fumes are detected, locate the source and make repairs immediately.
- Air out the boat by opening hatches, ports, and other openings.
- Run the ventilation system for at least four minutes before starting an inboard engine.
- Any gas kept onboard should be in a safety-approved tank and in a well-ventilated area away from cooking and heating appliances and the engine.



Personal Watercraft Fuel Selector Switch

The fuel selector switch on a Personal Watercraft helps you avoid being stranded without fuel.

- When the engine is off, the switch should be in the "Off" position.
- When the engine is running, the switch should be in the "On" position.
- Turn switch to the "Reserve" position if you need more fuel.

Waste Disposal IC 14-15-2-8-(a), 3121AC5-5

Never throw, dump, place, or deposit any litter or unwholesome substance in or near public waters. Dispose of any trash in a designated receptacle on shore.

Federal regulations require that any craft 26 feet or longer must carry signs (at least 9 inches wide by 4 inches high) prominently displayed to advise passengers and crew about procedures for disposing of trash.

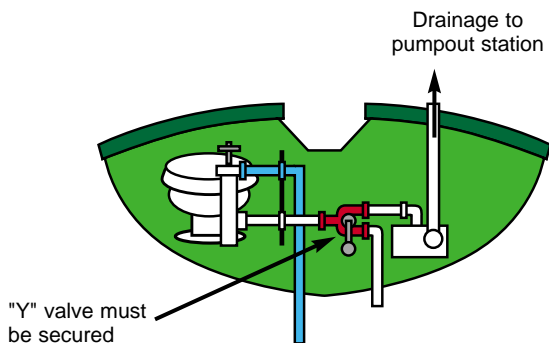
Litter includes the following: Bottles, glass, crockery, cans, scrap metal, junk, paper, garbage, rubbish, plastic or similar refuse. Other waste includes the following: Filth, a putrid substance, an unwholesome substance, the contents of a catch basin or grease trap or any other gray water.

Discharge of Sewage IC 14-15-2-7

Dispose of a watercraft's untreated sewage only through an approved sewage disposal facility.

Recreational boats with installed toilet facilities must have a U.S. Coast Guard-certified marine sanitation device (MSD) onboard. On Lake Michigan, vessels less than 65 feet in length may use a Type I, II, or III MSD.

Typical Marine Sanitation Device



Types of MSDs

A Type III MSD is a holding tank, including the holding tank of a portable toilet.

Type I and I MSDs liquefy waste and chemically treat sewage to reduce bacteria levels. The "Y" valve must be secure so no waste discharges into the water.

Oil and Other Hazardous Substances

33 CFR 155.330

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act prohibits the discharge of oil or oily waste into the waters of the United States.

Motorboats must have the capacity to retain onboard all oily mixtures and be equipped to discharge these mixtures to a reception facility.

If oil or another hazardous substance is accidentally discharged into the water, immediately call:

U.S. Coast Guard

(800) 424-8802

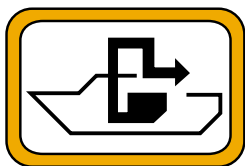
Indiana Department of Environmental Management

(800) 451-6027

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

800-TIP-IDNR

**See page 47 for a list of Indiana's
pumpout locations.**



PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

Operators of Personal Watercraft must follow the same rules and as other inboard motorboat operators. In addition, they must obey rules and safety precautions specific to Personal Watercrafts.



Age Requirements IC 14-15-11

Individuals must have a valid driver's license to operate a motorboat or Personal Watercraft on public waters.

A person who is at least 15 years old may operate a motorboat or Personal Watercraft if he or she has a BMV identification card and has successfully completed a DNR-approved boating education course. No one under age 15 may operate a Personal Watercraft or a boat with greater than 10 horsepower.

Points will be assessed against a person's driver's license for operating a motorboat or Personal Watercraft in violation of state boating laws.

Indiana residents are required to have a driver's license when boating on boundary waters. Nonresidents are not required to have a license unless operating in an Indiana embayment, river, or stream.

Courtesy On the Water IC 14-15-12-10

Boaters should always operate Personal Watercraft in a reasonable and prudent manner that does not endanger human life, physical safety, or property. This includes:

- Do not weave through traffic.
- Do not follow another craft that is towing a person on skis, surfboard, or other sporting device.
- Do not cut between a boat and the individual(s) being towed by the boat.
- Do not jump the wake of another watercraft.
- Do not cross paths with another watercraft when visibility is obstructed.
- Do not steer toward a person or object and turn sharply at close range.
- Do not congregate with other Personal Watercraft operators near shore.
- Limit the noise level when using your Personal Watercraft near residential or camping areas. Lifting a Personal Watercraft's engine exhaust out of the water increases the noise level.
- Do not modify a Personal Watercraft engine to create more noise.

Steering and Stopping

Most Personal Watercraft are controlled by a handlebar or steering wheel, which controls a steering nozzle at the back of the craft. Turn the handlebar to the right, and the steering nozzle turns right, pushing the back of the boat to the left and moving the Personal Watercraft to the right.

A craft's engine must be providing power to maintain steering on a Personal Watercraft. Loss of power results in loss of steering control.

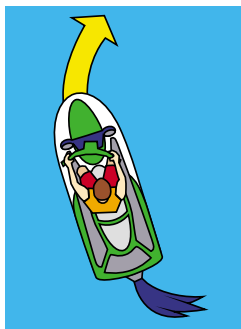
Personal Watercraft have a long stopping distance. Releasing the throttle or turning off the engine will not stop the craft immediately.

Ignition Safety Switches IC 14-15-12-9

A Personal Watercraft that does not have self-circling capability must have a lanyard-type engine cutoff switch. The switch shuts off the engine if the operator is thrown from the operating position.

The lanyard should be attached to the operator's person, clothing, or personal flotation device.

Steering Control



Steerable Nozzle



Reboarding After Capsizing

To reboard a Personal Watercraft that is completely overturned:

- Check the back of the craft for the manufacturer's decal that indicates in which direction you should roll the craft upright.
- After rolling, reboard from the rear.

Environmental Concerns

Everyone using Indiana's waterways must be considerate of the environment.

- A Personal Watercraft should not be used in water less than 24 inches deep.
- Causing a wake near the shore or in a narrow stream or river can cause erosion. Maintain idle speed within 200 feet of shore.
- Do not dock a Personal Watercraft in reeds or grasses.
- Fuel on land, if possible, or be careful when fueling in or near water.
- Never use a Personal Watercraft to chase birds or other animals.



Other Considerations

IC 14-15-12-8, IC 14-15-12

- Any person being towed by a Personal Watercraft must wear a U.S. Coast-Guard approved personal flotation device and should know how to swim. It is recommended that the PFDs be designed to withstand the impact of hitting the water at high speed.
- Inspect the electrical system of your Personal Watercraft regularly. Bad connections and gas fumes in the engine compartment can spark an explosion.
- Shut off the engine before clearing debris from the pump intake.
- Keep feet, hands, and hair away from the intake.
- Obey the manufacturer's load limit.
- A person may not face the rear while operating a Personal Watercraft.

Letting Others Ride

Before you let anyone else operate your Personal Watercraft, be sure they understand their responsibilities, including:

- The operator must have a valid driver's license or be at least 15 years old and have successfully completed a DNR-approved boating education course and have an ID Card issued by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles
- The operator must understand navigation rules.
- The operator must understand lateral and nonlateral markers, and especially "slow—no wake" restrictions

Indiana Boat Sewage Pumpout Locations

*Lake Michigan/
Michigan City*
**Washington Park
Marina**

(219) 872-1712

Superior Marine
(219) 879-5636

*Lake Michigan via Trail
Creek*

B & E Marine
(219) 879-8301

**Michigan City Scuba
Center**
(219) 874-8979

*Lake Michigan via Burns
Waterway*

**Burns Harbor
Marina or South
Shore Marina**
(219) 762-2304

Lefty's Coho Landing
(219) 762-7761

Marquette Yacht Club
(219) 762-9997 or 9961

**Portage Municipal
(or Public) Marina**
(219) 763-6833

**Miller Chapter IWLA
Marina**
(219) 769-8220 or
762-9974

Lake Michigan
**Hammond Municipal
Marine**
(219) 659-7678

**Robert A. Pastrick
Municipal Marina**
(219) 391-8482

Pine Lake
Fay's Marina
(219) 362-1491

Mississinewa Lake
Red Bridge Marina
(812) 395-7176 (check)

Lake Maxinkuckee
Culver Marina Inc.
(219) 842-3375

Salamonie Reservoir
**Pirate's Cove Marina
Inc.**
(219) 468-2162

Lake Watasee
**Main Channel
Marina**
(219) 457-4200

Monroe Reservoir
Fourwinds Marina
(812) 824-9904

**Paynetown State
Recreation Area**
(812) 837-9546

**Pleasure Craft Boat
Rental**
(812) 837-9394

Lake Lemmon
North Shore Marina
(812) 988-4663

Geist Reservoir
**Indianapolis Yacht
Club**
(317) 849-0989

Brookville Lake
Quakertown Marina
(765) 458-6490

Brookville Lake IDNR
(765) 647-2657

**Kent's Harbor
Marina**
(765) 458-7431

Cecil M. Harden Lake
**Raccoon State
Recreation Area**
(765) 344-1412

Cagles Mill Lake
**Lieber State
Recreation Area**
(765) 795-4567

*Ohio River (East)
via Laughery Creek*
**Lighthouse Point
Yacht Club Inc.**
(812) 926-4505

Tradewinds Marine
(812) 926-4505

Rising Sun
(812) 438-3277

Turtle Creek Harbor
(812) 594-2387

Madison Marina
(812) 265-5285

Ohio River (West)
Rocky Point Marina
(812) 547-7753

Inland Marina
(812) 422-8180

Patoka Lake
Marty's Lick Fork
(812) 678-4991

**Newton Stewart
Marina**
(812) 685-2219

Indiana Department of Natural Resources Information

**Division of Law Enforcement
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
402 W. Washington St., Rm. W255D
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 232-4010
www.dnr.in.gov**

Listing of other offices:

**District 1 Headquarters
9822 N. Turkey Creek Rd.
Syracuse, IN 46567
(219) 457-8092**

**District 2 Headquarters
1903 St. Mary's Ave.
Fort Wayne, IN 46808
(219) 426-0807**

**District 3 Headquarters
5921 State Road 43 N
West Lafayette, IN 47906-
9609
(765) 567-2080**

**District 4 Headquarters
3734 Mounds Rd.
Anderson, IN 46017
(765) 649-1062**

**District 5 Headquarters
1317 W. Lieber Rd., Suite 2
Cloverdale, IN 46120
(765) 795-3534**

**District 6 Headquarters
P.O. Box 266
Nashville, IN 47448
(812) 988-9761**

**District 7 Headquarters
2310 E. State Rd. 364
Winslow, IN 47598
(812) 789-9538**

**District 8 Headquarters
3084 N. Dillard Rd.
Birdseye, IN 47513
(812) 685-2498**

**District 9 Headquarters
11050 Keeler Rd.
Brookville, IN 47012
(765) 647-5835**

**District 10 Headquarters
100 W. Water St.
Michigan City, IN 46360
(219) 879-5710**

**North Region
Headquarters
1124 N. Mexico Rd.
Peru, IN 46970
(765) 473-9722**

**South Region
Headquarters
4850 S. St. Rd. 446
Bloomington, IN 47401
(812) 837-9536**